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CLASSIFICATION COMPTORNETAIN OF GENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY REPORT INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS CD NO.

COUNTRY Poland DATE OF

INFORMATION

SUBJECT

1949

Economic - Construction

HOW **PUBLISHED** 

DATE DIST. 21 Dec 1949

WHERE

**PUBLISHED** 

Daily newspapers

NO. OF PAGES

DATE

**PUBLISHED** 

22, 28 Oct 1949

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE

Polish

Warsay

REPORT NO.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE.

Newspapers emaindicated.

## GORNY SLASK MINERS TO GET BETTER HOUSING

2,653 APARTMENTS AWAIT COMPLETION -- Rzeczpospolita, No 291, 22 Oct 49

Workers' Housing Projects (ZOR) is planning a vast housing project for workers of the Gorny Slask mining district. About 5,313 apartments have been erected during the 1947 - 1949 period, 2,653 are awaiting completion. Two dormitories for mine workers have been repaired and contain 2,800 beds.

ZOR is building in 53 mining enters and in Gaynia, where 400 apartments have been erected for coal transport workers.

Funds for residential construction for workers during 1949 amount to 5,300,000 zlotys. In spite of this work, Gorny Slask is still short 24,000 dwelling units. It is expected that the shortage will be covered within the next few years.

During 1947 - 1949, ZOR laid 81 kilometers of water mains, 6 kilometers of sewage pipes, 79 kilometers of highways and streets, and put up 287 kilometers of fencing. Parks and squares are being landscaped over an area of 600 hectares. Typical apartments in the projects will consist of two or three rooms, with bath and kitchen. Every house will have a storage basement and a laundry.

CONSTRUCTION MINISTRY SETS UP EXPERIMENTAL CENTER -- Trybuna Ludu, No 297, 28 Oct 49

The Institute of Building Technology (ITE) associated with the Ministry of Construction set up an experimental center in Mokotow district of Warsaw, the first of its kind in Poland. Research in construction will be carried on and the laboratory will test the feasibility of suggested innovations.

The center is patterned after similar scientific centers in the Soviet Union, where entire experimental communities have been set up.

The initial project will be to test the strength of steel ceilings, with the adaptation of cheaper qualities of steel if practicable. Foundations have already been built, over which ceiling beams of four different varieties of steel will be laid. The results of the experiments will be ready next spring.

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The experimental center of Its is also testing Handzelewicz-type roofing which requires no truss or framework.

The Workers' Housing Institute is especially interested in these experiments with a view to adapting some items in the mass production of housing projects.

The construction of the administration building, the storerooms, and the recreation rooms of the center is also experimental in character. For example, the walls of the office were tuilt of bricks and "suprema" (wood shavings bound with cement), the plaster used was of clay and cement, and various combinations of clay were used in the mortar, plaster, and base

The scientific and administrative research of the center encompasses a range heretofore unknown in Poland. It is expected that the work of the center will be a great aid to the building industry in setting up new methods and systems throughout the Six-Year Plan.

Laboratory findings will lead to reductions in the cost of materials and facilitate the realization of innovations.

WARSAW SEWAGE SYSTEM TO EXPAND -- Zycie Warszawy, No 291, 22 Oct 49

Under the Six-Year Plan, 12 billion zictys have been allotted for the expansion of the Warsaw sewage and water systems, with 1.5 billion zlotys to be used in 1950. Grochow will receive first priority, followed by Targowek, Mokotow, and Wola.

New housing projects of the Workers' Housing Enterprise will obtain 5,000 meters of new water and sewage pipes in 1950.

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